

FRANCOIS DUCOING.

JANUARY 10, 1832.

Mr. EVANS, of Maine, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, made the following

REPORT:

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Francois Ducoing, report:

That this petition was presented to the last Congress, and was referred to the Committee on Military Pensions, by whom a report was made favorable to the petitioner, accompanied by a bill for his relief. The committee are satisfied with that report, which they adopt, and accordingly report a bill.

The Committee on Military Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Francois Ducoing, a soldier of the late war, report:

That the petitioner sets forth in his petition that, during the invasion of Louisiana, in 1814, 1815, that he was attached to Captain St. Gene's company, Major Plauche's battalion: that, while in actual service in the defence of New Orleans, he received a wound in his right leg, which has, for some time past, so disabled him that it is completely out of his power to pursue his trade, or gain a subsistence in any other way: that he has a family of six small children dependent on him for their daily support, and who are at this time, in a state of extreme want.

In corroboration of this, his statement, he produces a certificate signed by a number of the officers, of high grade and standing, who were engaged in the service with him, stating that they knew him to have received a wound in his right leg while engaged in the service; and, from information, have reason to believe has disabled him ever since from working at his profession to sustain a numerous family.

He also produces the certificate of the surgeon-major of the 1st battalion Louisiana militia, during the invasion of the English in 1814 and 1815, employed in active service under the command of General Jackson, who states that he knew the petitioner to be wounded on the 1st January, 1815, in the attack of the English on our retrenchments, in the right leg, by the explosion of a shell; notwithstanding, he remained at his post in despite of his advice. For six months' he suffered excruciating pain in the wounded part: the pains have never left him, and have ever since rendered him unfit for action. He is unable to stand on his leg, whereby he is wholly disabled from exercising his profession.

The wound is now more serious; notwithstanding the best surgical aid, it may require amputation. His sufferings are great, and is utterly unable to attend to his business, and frequently compelled to keep his bed for whole months. He gives it, as his opinion, that the petitioner is in a condition of entire disability.

In addition, we have the letter of the Hon. E. D. White, in which he states that he knows the handwriting of the most of the gentlemen that signed the certificate, and that they are all men of high character, and who served with distinction in the war. The committee, are of opinion that the petitioner is entitled to his prayer; for which they report a bill, at eight dollars per month.

REPORT